



International Office

Differences between Graduate Studies - Brazil & World

According to our Graduation Rectory, we would like to clarify some points that are different in our studies comparing to yours.

Our college system can be different from yours. Our bachelor program, which is considered undergraduate level, lasts from 4 to 5 years and the Master program (Graduate level) lasts from 2 to 2,5 years and can only be done after you earn a bachelor diploma (from an undergraduate program).

Therefore, the students that are applying for Master Program here must have their bachelor (undergraduate) diploma, otherwise, they cannot register. I also would like to complement that the <u>last two year of bachelor program</u> has a high level of courses in matters of content, qualification of professors, exams etc. Students who don't have a Bachelor diploma can be nominated as an exchange student for undergraduate level.

Still on the master issue, the Business Administration Master Program is taught in quarters. So, the first quarter goes from March till May, the second quarter goes from June till early September, and the third and last quarter goes from mid-September till December. All undergraduate programs and for the Economics and Accountancy Master Programs are taught in the semester, and then the first semester goes from February to June and the second goes from August to December.

The Master program in Economics must be achieved in 27 months, while the Master Programs in Management of Organizations and Accountancy and the Ph.D. Program in Management of Organizations must be achieved in 30 months.

Graduate Studies programs are organized in two formats: *Stricto Sensu* graduate studies and *Lato Sensu* graduate studies. *Stricto Sensu* courses are offered at Masters and Doctoral levels. Their objective is to prepare highly qualified human resources for occupations in the fields of teaching and research as well as scientific and technological development. On the other hand, *Lato Sensu*courses are directed towards professional or scientific training and confer specialist certification.

You can find more information regarding the undergraduate and graduate studies in the following website: <u>https://www.fearp.usp.br/en/</u>

In Brazil, a bachelor's degree takes from four years (full-time) to six years (part-time) to complete. A bachelor's degree is the title sought by Brazilians in order to be a professional in a certain area of human knowledge. Master's and doctoral degrees are additional degrees for those seeking an academic career or a specific understanding of a certain field.

A Brazilian "bachelor's" corresponds to a European "first cycle". A Brazilian "bachelor's" takes three to six years for completion, as well as usually a written monograph or concluding project, in the same way as a European "bachelor's" can be finished in three to four years,



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after which time Europeans may embark on a one- to two-year 2nd cycle program usually called a "master's", according to the <u>Bologna Process</u>.

Depending on programs and personal choices, Europeans can achieve a "master's" degree in as little as four years (a three-year bachelor's and a one-year master's) and as long as six years (a four-year bachelor's, a two-year master's) of higher education. While in Brazil it would be possible to have a master's degree in as little as three years (two years for a "tecnólogo" to degree and an additional year for a master's) or as long as eight years (six years for professional degrees, plus two years for a master's). Postgraduate degrees in Brazil are different from Europe. There are two different courses, Mestrado (equivalent to Research Master's in Europe, it takes two years and the candidate must submit a long dissertation before a jury of 3 renowned academics to obtain the title) and Especialização (equivalent to Taught Master's in Europe, it takes one to two years and the candidate must submit a shorter dissertation to obtain the title). Only candidates possessing a bachelor's degree are entitled to undertake a Mestrado.

The Brazilian bachelors could be compared to the bachelors Hons in the U.S.A/ Academic master's and doctoral degrees could be directly comparable.